(b) The amount disbursed so far towards claims for Kharif 1987, Statewise is as follows:—

Assam	— Rs.	0.90 lakhs
Bihar	— Rs.	386.72 ,,
Kerala	— Rs.	10.44 ,,
Uttar Pradesh	— Rs.	299.50 ,,
West Bengal	— Rs.	195.70 ,,
	Rs.	893.26 ,,

Second Channel of Doordarshan

*148. SHRI T. R. BALU:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) The names of Doordarshan Kendras in the country presently having second channel;

(b) the dates on which the second channel was started;

(c) the number of Doordarshan Kendras where second channel is likely to be started during the current plan period;

(d) how many State Governments have demanded second channel for regional programmes and implementation of State policies; and

(e) what are the details of their demands and steps taken therefore?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) to (e) The Second Channel service has been introduced from Doordarshan Kendras at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras with effect from the date indicated against each:—

Delhi—17-9-1984
Bombay—1-5-1985
Calcutta—19-11-1987
Madras—1-7-1988

There is no scheme in the Seventh Plan of Doordarshan to introduce second channel TV service from any other centre.

Requests have been received from time to time from the State Governments of Sikkim, Tripura, Assam, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and West Bengal for seting up of second channel TV service of Doordarshan to be used exclusively by the State Governments. However, the operation and maintenance of broadcasting network in the country is a responsibility assigned under the Constitution to the Central Government. The Government is, therefore, firmly of the view that this position needs to be maintained as the provision was so incorporated by the framers of the Constitution in their wisdom.

Survey conducted by the Mineral Exploration Corporation

*152. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Mineral Exploration Corporation had undertaken drilling/mining survey works in some States during the last three years;

(b) if so, the names of such States; and

(c) whether any such survey was undertaken by the Corporation in Tamil Nadu during the last three years, if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL) has undertaken Drilling/Mining and survey work for various minerals during the last three years in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

(c) On behalf of Neyveli Lignite Corporation MECL has been conducting detailed exploration in Tamil Nadu for Lignite in Neyveli Mines Blocks I, II and III as also in South Vellar, Behur basin and